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A HARVEST TWIST ON
AN OLD FAVOURITE
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SLIP-SLIDING INTO
THE WORLD OF
DISNEY {page 17}

BACK HOME AMANDA KNOX LANDS ON U.S. SOIL

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Wednesday, October 5,
2011

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 News worth
sharing.

Redford gets to work

► Premier-designate Alison Redford gets down to business with caucus ► The 46-year-old married mother delivered a stunning victory over Gary Mar in the leadership race

Alberta premier-designate Alison Redford stepped into a room teeming with politicians who just days ago weren't her backers and quickly got down to business as their new boss.

Progressive Conservative members — most who did not support Redford's come-from-behind leadership bid last weekend — gave her a standing ovation as she opened her first caucus meeting in Edmonton yesterday.

Redford later said she wasn't sure what to expect.

"I think a lot of people wondered what caucus was going to be like today, including me," Redford told reporters. "It was fantastic. We had a great time. This is a government that's ready to govern. It's a party that's ready to lead."

She quickly named one of her rivals in the Tory leadership race as her No. 2.

The race's third-place finisher Doug Horner will serve as deputy premier, the post he held under outgoing Premier Ed Stelmach.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Alison Redford attends her first caucus meeting yesterday as Alberta premier-designate in Edmonton alongside Health Minister Gene Zwoesky, left, and caucus whip Robin Campbell.

IAN JACKSON/CANADIAN PRESS

Bike lanes

Cyclists see chaos potential

► Dearth of signs along bike route makes it 'dangerous' ► Cars spotted driving on bike lanes {page 4}



Court hears accused

Alleged
bomber calls
America
'cancer'
{page 9}

Bombing in Somalia

70 people killed as
truck loaded with fuel
drums explodes
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U6504A
\$249 Bi-Weekly
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Was: \$30,995
U6470A
\$209 Bi-Weekly
8 passenger, Cloth interior

2008 Chevrolet Malibu
\$10,995
Was: \$11,995
P5044A
\$96 Bi-Weekly
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2011 Ford F-150 Lariat Eco-Boost
\$41,995
Was: \$43,995
P5052A
\$299 Bi-Weekly
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2011 GMC Acadia SLT
\$37,995
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Paxton bullied neighbours: Reports

Court reportedly heard yesterday that Dustin Paxton frequently taunted neighbours, forcing some to move away.

Paxton, 31, is charged with forcible confinement, aggravated assault and sexual assault of a 27-year-old man who was his roommate.

In one instance described to court yesterday, renters living in a suite below Paxton claimed he came at them with a cane and threatened them with bear spray as they were moving out of a home on Centre Street North in 2009. **METRO**

New info in city's third homicide

Calgary police have released new details on the city's third homicide of the year in hopes of spurring new tips from the public.

Around 1:30 a.m. on June 21, emergency responders went to a home in the 1000 block of Marcombe Drive Northeast and found three injured residents. Cuong Viet Doan, 53, was later pronounced dead in hospital.

Police say they are seeking information on a late-model SUV seen leaving the area at the time of the incident and are also looking for information on two men wearing dark clothing near the scene. **METRO**



City wiping out graffiti 8 times faster

- Pilot project results in 300 per cent increase in graffiti removal
- Cost of removal has been reduced to \$1.46 per square foot



KATIE TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

City staff are taking the eraser to city graffiti at a much faster rate thanks to a new abatement model, said the city's bylaw boss.

Bill Bruce said a pilot project over the last 14 months has seen a removal time of eight days reduced to an average of 24 hours.

"Part of the reason peo-

ple do graffiti is for recognition and if you remove that recognition, there's less incentive to do it again," said Bruce. "If it's removed quickly, it has huge benefits on our community livability."

Const. Dave Ladic of Calgary Police Service's graffiti unit said there is a definite benefit to removing graffiti as quickly as possible.

"It's actually been proven that the quicker

Pilot project

- The pilot project began in August of 2010 and the one-time funding for it ended in December 2010.
- Bruce said there would be no additional requests from

you remove graffiti, the less likely it is to come back and the less likely that that offender is going to do it again on that property," said Ladic. "If it's left up there, people get the perception that no one is watching the community, no one's taking care of it."

council for funding as community and protective services business units created a \$330,000 fund to sustain the program.

- Both public and private properties are included in the removal program.

1
news



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The federal Liberals say the government needs to fight harder against mental illness and suicide.
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ENERGY

Enmax breaks ground

Construction of a new southeast power facility is underway after a ground-breaking ceremony yesterday morning.

Preliminary work on Enmax's Shepard Energy Centre began in 2007. The facility will become operational in

2015, according to a release.

"Now that the preliminary site preparation is complete, construction of the major elements of this critical power facility are in full swing," Enmax's board chair Greg Melchin said in a statement.

The facility will house two 240 MW natural-gas-fired turbine generators, which weigh about 400,000 pounds each and are being shipped from Japan, a journey that takes three months. 

Cabinet emails being probed

Alberta's privacy commissioner wants to find out how often cabinet ministers use secondary email accounts.

These accounts became an issue during the Alberta Tory leadership race after a former government staffer came forward with allegations about Ted Morton.

The former staffer says Morton used such an account when he was minister of sustainable resource development.

Frank Work says he wants to establish clear guidelines for how ministerial emails should be treated under information and privacy laws.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police need aid solving assault

Around 10 p.m. last Wednesday, a woman exiting a bus on 52nd Street and Madigan Drive Northwest was grabbed by a man. The woman escaped.

 METRO

Calls made before deaths, court hears

Several calls were made in the minutes leading up to and following a 2009 New Year's Day triple homicide, according to reports. Court heard yesterday that the accused is thought to have used one phone. 

Marasigan wasn't the only one confused by the new routes. Some motorists pulling out of SAIT yesterday drove down the middle of both the vehicle and bike lane before seeing signs indicating they should do otherwise.

Reports also indicate motorists have experienced additional gridlock

during the morning and afternoon rush hours, as the city has closed one southbound lane to make room for the bike lanes.

Blanka Bracic, transportation engineer with the City of Calgary, said additional signs planned for the area will, hopefully, alleviate some of the

frustrations.

Her department plans to reassess the pilot project in the spring.

Al Fedoruk with Bike Calgary said he rode the new lanes yesterday and had no problems.

"These are a good, and welcome, addition to the bike infrastructure," he said.

Safety issue

► Transportation engineer Blanka Bracic says 80 per cent of cyclists surveyed said they did not feel safe in traffic.

► Bracic said other bike lanes do exist in Calgary but none are on busy roadways that enter the downtown.

New bike lanes a cause for confusion

- Biking space on 10th Street N.W. a 'big step' for city's cycling strategy
- More signs and information about pilot project needed, users say



JEREMY NOLAIS
@METRONEWS.CA

Calgary cyclists are ringing their bells with glee over new bike-reserved lanes on a busy northwest commuter route, but they say the potential for chaos exists.

Many two-wheeled travellers speaking to Metro yesterday were surprised to learn lanes on 10th Street Northwest between 5th and 23rd avenues had been opened for their use only.

Christian Marasigan, who was seen riding up the sidewalk adjacent to the busy roadway yesterday, was surprised to learn of the new routes.

"It's a little dangerous," he said. "Maybe the city will install some permanent signs to let people know."

Marasigan wasn't the only one confused by the new routes. Some motorists pulling out of SAIT yesterday drove down the middle of both the vehicle and bike lane before seeing signs indicating they should do otherwise.

Reports also indicate motorists have experienced additional gridlock



► Cyclist Christian Marasigan was not aware of new bike lanes along 10th Street Northwest and believes more signs are needed.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

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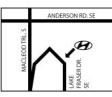
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Knox returns, thanks supporters

► Arrives back in U.S. after acquittal in Italy

► Prosecutor could still appeal verdict

Amanda Knox returned to her hometown of Seattle yesterday and was as overcome with emotion as she was a day earlier in Italy, when she was acquitted on murder charges after four years in prison. "Thank you for being there for me," she tearfully told her supporters in front of a crowd of reporters from two continents.

"I'm really overwhelmed right now," she said at a news conference minutes after she was escorted off a British Airways flight out of London.

Knox's life turned around dramatically Monday when an Italian appeals court threw out her conviction in the sexual assault and fatal stabbing of her British roommate in 2007. Yesterday a court-

"I was looking down from the airplane, and it seemed like everything wasn't real."

AMANDA KNOX

room picture of Knox crying after the verdict was read appeared on the front pages of newspapers in Italy, the U.S., Britain and around the world.

After arriving at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, Knox, now 24, sobbed at the news conference and held her mother's hand as her lawyer Theodore Simon said her acquittal "unmistakably announced to the world" that she was not responsible for the killing of Meredith Kercher.

After her parents offered their thanks to Knox's lawyers and supporters, Knox spoke briefly, saying, "They're reminding me to speak in English, because I'm having problems with that."

"Thank you to everyone who's believed in me, who has defended me, who has supported my family," she said. "My family's the most important thing to me so I just want to be with them."

Knox's acquittal, fueled by doubts over DNA evidence, stunned the victim's family and angered the prosecution, which insists that she was among three people who killed Kercher, 21. But for Knox's grandmother Elisabeth Huff, "it was like the weight of the world had



► Amanda Knox talks to reporters in Seattle yesterday. Knox was freed Monday after an Italian appeals court threw out her murder conviction.

gone."

"We all are as happy as can be. I can't tell you how long we've been looking

forward to this day," Huff told The Associated Press outside her home in West Seattle, a tight-knit com-

munity a few miles across Elliott Bay from downtown.

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Airport pat-down leads to security climb-down

► Breast-cancer patient frisked at JFK when scanner detects implants ► Security agency apologizes

A woman recovering from breast cancer says she was subjected to a humiliating public pat-down at a New York airport even though she offered to produce documentation about her medical implants.

Business consultant Lori Dorn said in a blog that the frisking at John F. Kennedy International Airport added "insult to injury and caused me a great deal of humiliation."

The U.S. Transportation Security Administration later apologized for the incident.

Dorn, 44, was heading to San Francisco last week when a full-body scanner detected her prostheses. She said she explained to TSA staff that she had recently undergone bilater-

Screen test

► The U.S. Transportation Security Administration recently rolled out a four-part in-service training course focused on screening prosthetics. Training should be completed across the United States by the end of next year, the TSA says.

al mastectomy and had tissue expanders, implanted to stretch her skin before she can undergo breast reconstruction surgery.

A TSA agent refused to let her retrieve documentation from her wallet "that explains the type of

expanders, serial numbers and my doctor's information," she said. She was then told she must submit to a physical exam.

"I had no choice but to allow an agent to touch my breasts in front of other passengers," Dorn said.

TSA spokeswoman Lisa Farbstein says Dorn's medical documents would not have spared her a pat-down but adds it could have been done privately.

In her blog, Dorn does not say whether she asked for the pat-down to be conducted in private. A report quoted her as saying she was not offered that as an option.

In its own blog, the TSA said it regretted the incident.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bay. Watch



► A composite image shows the changing sea levels of the Bay of Fundy in Nova Scotia.

CONTRIBUTED

Fundy bid hoping for tide of goodwill

The campaign to have the Bay of Fundy named one of the New Seven Wonders of Nature is gearing up as the Nov. 11 deadline approaches. The bay is known for having the greatest tidal range in the world. Readers who want to vote for the Bay of Fundy free of charge can go to votemyfundy.com, or text FUNDY to 77077 on any Canadian cellphone. (The cost is 25¢ per text vote.)

Fur flies in U.K. cat spat

British judges insist they didn't block a criminal's deportation because of worries he would be separated from his pet cat, as

Home Secretary Theresa May has charged.

May, a Conservative opposed to Britain's human-rights law, has called the ruling an abuse of the legislation.

In fact, the Judicial Office said, the man was al-

lowed to stay because of a relationship with his girlfriend, a British resident.

In the court ruling, Judge Judith Gleeson had joked that the couple's cat wouldn't have "to adapt to Bolivian mice."

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News in brief**Helicopter crashes in New York**

ACCIDENT. A helicopter carrying four tourists crashed into the East River yesterday afternoon after taking off from a launch pad on the riverbank, killing one passenger and injuring the others.

New York Police Department divers pulled the dead woman from about 15 metres of water about an hour after the Bell 206 helicopter went down around 3 p.m. All the passengers appeared to be British tourists, police said. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Pit bulls attack owner

DOGS SHOT. Gatineau

police shot and killed two pit bulls after the dogs attacked their owner and then turned on the officers, said a police spokesman yesterday.

A neighbour called 911 at 8:45 a.m. Sunday to report a dog attack, said police spokesperson Const. Pierre Lanthier. Police found the dogs' owner was waiting outside of his apartment building with severe bites to his arms and legs.

"One of the pit bulls started running toward the cops. He was really mad and tried to jump at the police officer. So they had no choice, but to shoot and kill the dog," said Lanthier.

A dog catcher tried to control a second pit bull and then an officer tried to use pepper spray to subdue it, said Lanthier. "After that the dog was dangerous. That's when the police officer used a firearm to kill that dog too." **METRO OTTAWA**

Somalia bombing kills 70

- Al-Qaida-linked group claims responsibility
- Bombing targets students, parents on busy street

Al-Qaida-linked militants launched their deadliest single bombing in Somalia yesterday, killing 70 people and demonstrating how the group that blocked aid to famine victims can still mount devastating violence even after most of its fighters fled the capital in August.

A truck loaded with drums of fuel exploded outside the Ministry of Education on one of central Mogadishu's busiest streets, where students and their parents were registering for scholarships offered by the Turkish government. At least 70 people were killed and 42 wounded, said Ali Muse, chief of Mogadishu's ambulance service.

The thunderous blast covered the city in dust more than a half-mile away and left blackened corpses



► Somalis carry a wounded man at the scene of an explosion in Mogadishu, Somalia, yesterday.

MOHAMED SHEIKH NOR/ASSOCIATED PRESS

sprawled amid burning vehicles.

Rescuers rushed scores of victims with burns and severed limbs to Medina Hospital, said nurse Ali Abdullahi. Even in a city beset by war and anarchy for two decades, the bombing hor-

rified medical workers. "It is the most awful tragedy I have ever seen," he said.

Maj. Gen. Fred Mugisha, the commander of the African Union Mission to Somalia force, known as AMISOM, said the attack targeted several Somali gov-

al-Shabab

Rebels of the al-Shabab militant group immediately claimed responsibility for the bombing.

- Two years ago, al-Shabab was blamed for an attack on a graduation ceremony that killed 24 people.
- The attack came as Somalia struggles to rebound from its worst famine in 60 years.
- Al-Shabab fighters have compounded the suffering by preventing aid agencies from helping famine victims in areas in southern Somalia.

ernment institutions.

The suicide bomber detonated the explosives after the vehicle rammed a checkpoint outside a compound housing several government ministries, Mugisha said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Accused terrorist throws tantrum

► At his trial, suspected underwear bomber rages against U.S. ► Asks to wear 'Yemeni belt with a dagger'

A Nigerian man accused of trying to bring down an international jetliner with a bomb in his underwear walked into the start of his federal trial yesterday and declared that a radical Islamic cleric killed by the U.S. military is alive.

Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab's outburst came as jury selection got underway for his federal terror trial in Detroit, where the 24-year-old is acting as his own attorney and has previously told reporters they should stop reporting that Osama bin Laden was dead.

"Anwar is alive," Abdulmutallab said yesterday, referring to American-born cleric Anwar al-Awlaki,



► Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab

who was killed last week by a joint CIA-U.S. military air strike in Yemen.

"The mujahadeen will wipe out the U.S. — the cancer U.S.," he added.

Abdulmutallab, a well-

educated Nigerian from an upper-class family, was directed in the attack by al-Awlaki and wanted to become a martyr when he boarded Northwest Airlines Flight 253 in Amsterdam on Christmas 2009, according to the government.

Abdulmutallab, who complained loudly at a previous hearing about having to wear prison clothes, came into the courtroom yesterday wearing an oversized prison T-shirt.

U.S. District Judge Nancy Edmunds called recess to allow him to change into clothes more appropriate for court.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Forbes ranks Canada tops for business

Forbes ranked Canada as the best country for business yesterday, moving up from fourth spot last year, helped by a lower overall tax burden.

"While the U.S. is paralyzed by fears of a double-dip recession and Europe struggles with

sovereign debt issues, Canada's economy has held up better than most," the influential U.S. business magazine wrote.

Forbes noted that Canada ranked ninth among the 134 countries reviewed for tax burden compared with 23rd in the category for 2010.

Canada was the only country to rank in the Top 20 in 10 of the 11 categories considered by Forbes. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

No stimulus unless recession: Flaherty

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty laid out what would have to happen before he would introduce new stimulus to support the economy and jobs: a new recession.

But Flaherty said he's "relatively confident" that will not happen.

The minister's statements yesterday came min-



► Flaherty

utes before the Toronto Stock Exchange opened with another big selloff and more dark news out of Europe that Greece was edging closer to a debt default.

"If we had some sort of world recession, that would change the picture dramatically," Flaherty said of the government's approach.

"But I'm relatively confident that what we're going to see in Canada is modest economic growth over the next little while."

Flaherty said he was willing to throw overboard plans to balance the budget in four years if a slump hit Canada. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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are diagnosed
with a brain
tumour.**

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double vision**

Weakness

**Personality
changes**

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nausea and
vomiting**



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Apple unveils faster, more powerful iPhone



► Apple CEO Tim Cook talks about the iPhone 4S during an announcement at Apple headquarters in Cupertino, Calif., yesterday.

Market moment

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas
- 73.92 (11,177.91)	- 1.14¢ (94.2¢ US)	- \$1.94 US (\$75.67 US)	1,000 cu ft \$3.638 US (+ \$2.1¢)

Source: S&P Capital IQ

► 39 million iPhones were sold in the first six months of this year

Apple Inc. unveiled a faster, more powerful iPhone yesterday in its first major product event in years without Steve Jobs presiding.

New CEO Tim Cook led the show after Jobs, who has health problems, resigned from the post in August.

Cook, wearing a navy blue button-down shirt and jeans, opened by calling his nearly 14-year tenure at Apple "the privilege of a lifetime." Those in the audience clapped as he entered, but the reaction seemed more muted than what Jobs had recently received.

Cook said the iPhone 4, which came out in June 2010, sold more quickly than previous models, but Apple has just five per cent of the worldwide handset market.

Apple is hoping to grow that with a new model. The new iPhone 4S has an improved camera with a higher-resolution sensor. The processor is faster, which helps run smoother, more realistic action games. It's also a "world phone," which means that Verizon iPhones will be usable

overseas, just as AT&T iPhones already are.

The new iPhone also comes with new mobile software, iOS 5, that includes such features as the ability to sync content wirelessly, without having to plug the device into a Mac or Windows machine.

Apple said the new phone will come in black or white. Its U.S. price will be \$199 for a 16 gigabyte version, \$299 for 32 GB and \$399 for 64 GB — all with a two-year service contract requirement.

iOS 5 will also be available on Oct. 12 for existing devices — the iPhone 4 and 3GS, both iPad models and later versions of the iPod Touch.

Apple said Oct. 12 will also mark the launch of its new iCloud service, which will store content such as music, documents, apps and photos on Apple's servers and let people access them wirelessly on numerous devices.

Apple also touted the popularity of its products and unveiled a new line of iPods, including a Nano model with a multi-touch display that promises to be easier to navigate.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO



"There's somethin' happenin' here. What it is ain't exactly clear."

That's the opening line from the most famous protest song of the '60s, Buffalo Springfield's *For What It's Worth*. It was written by Stephen Stills, who went on to Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young fame, and then went on to become old and fat, like most of the other citizens of Woodstock Nation.

But, as my grandma used to say, if you hang around long enough, history will repeat itself, like beans for dinner.

My grandma may have been a bit rude, but she was right. There's a new protest movement in town. It's called Occupy Wall Street, and if the youth of today weren't so prejudiced about classic rock, Steve's song would fit right in: There is somethin' happening here ... and what it is ain't exactly clear. And that's putting it mildly.

Occupy Wall Street started small in a park near the New York Financial District when 100 people were arrested for being obnoxious on or about Sept. 24, and has grown daily, spreading to other cities in the U.S., Europe and Japan and, of course,

Canada, which never wants to be left out.

Occupy Wall Street Nation, spawned by the children of the boomer citizens of Woodstock Nation, is an eerily accurate echo of the original. Stylish, young, technologically hip protesters drape themselves over iconic real estate uttering incoherent slogans.

Back then it was "Smash the state" and "Hell, no, we won't go" and "One, two, three, four — what are we fightin' for?" etc. Today it's "Honk if you're in debt," "Tax the rich," "99 per cent" (as in, 99 per cent are poor; one per cent are rich) and "Compassion is evolutionary" ... whatever that means. Slogans and stylin' are more important than policy, which is, after all, complex, boring and contentious. Ee-yew.

Like Woodstock Nation, Occupy Wall Street Nation is a shambolic coalition of leftist ideologues, all-over-the-map "anarchists," actual poor people struggling to make ends meet, and students who naturally support any movement featuring free smoke, free pizza and a chance to meet beautiful people with bells on their toes and rings in their noses.

There's still part of me that wants to stick it to the Man, just like I did back in 1970. Until I remember that I am the Man, man, which is a bummer. When did I get to be the Man? When I got a job? Grew up? Had a family? All of the above?

How about that? Four decades later, and it still ain't exactly clear ... for what it's worth.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsayin



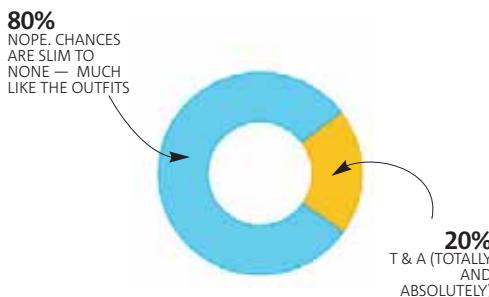
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Letters

RE: *Gaga takes her case to Obama, published Sept. 28*

After reading this article I felt the same way as Lady Gaga, that bullying should be a hate crime.

Throughout life you always get people saying, "It's just a part of growing up, it builds self-esteem, they like you, just ignore it, just toughen up, just forget it."

Those are some of the things people say, but it's not that easy. There's a poster at my school I really like because it says, "Whoever said don't run from your problems never had to face a bully."

It is hard to go through life with a bully or a memory of a bully on your back.

Bullying can lead to many awful things in life. So many people don't take bullying seriously, including teachers and other adults. If a kid is bullied in school and tells a teacher and the teacher doesn't do anything about it, they're basically saying, "Go ahead, you can bully — it's OK to be mean to someone." However it's not OK. It is completely wrong and people don't know the effects it can have on a person.

GINA VISSER, VANCOUVER B.C.

Local tweets



► **@BodyBe-**

Fit: Why does downtown #yyz smell like a garbage dump.

► **@cookskorner:** why can't people who live on corners, trim their hedges, bushes and trees? #there-oughtabealaw #yyz @nen-

shi

► **@Beltliner403:** Hitting some more doors tonight in #yyzcentre as soon as this nineteen-pound lump in my lap gets bored, stops purring, and wanders off. #gpc

► **@gherikurl:** Loves how other people in #yyz

besides me are starting to leave their unexpired transit tickets on the ticket dispensers at the train!

► **@CalgaryPatty:** is it weird that at 26 my "Emergency contact" is still my mommy? #yyz

► **@MsDemiC:** #yyz Can someone explain to me how someone who is of no asset to a business can manage to keep their job #deadbeatworkers

► **@breanna_lm:** The view coming down Stoney Trail towards Crowchild is actually stunning with all the fall colors & the mountains in the distance. #yyz

Cranberry Harvest



► Miguel Sandel of Middleborough, Mass., rakes cranberries into a loading tube during an afternoon harvest at the Hannula cranberry bogs in Carver, Mass., yesterday.

CHARLES KRUPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Photo of the day

Massachusetts cranberry farmers are expecting a robust crop this fall. Researchers said that growing conditions this summer were optimal, with enough hot days interspersed with the right amount of rain.

WEIRD NEWS

Trekking on an 87-year-old mystery

A proposed expedition to Mount Everest later this year could solve an 87-year-old mystery: Did two British adventurers, George Mallory and Andrew Irvine, reach the top of the mountain?

Mallory and Irvine began their assault on June 6, 1924. They were last spotted around 1 p.m. on June 8, climbing an obstacle. They were, according to *Scientific American*, less

than a kilometre from the summit. And then the weather turned bad and they were never seen again.

Their disappearance has prompted many in the climbing community — and beyond — to speculate on what happened to the pair. More than a half a dozen expeditions have scaled Everest over the years to find the missing men and write the final chapter in their mysterious demise.

The tale of these two climbers has long fired the imagination of Tom Holzel, an Everest historian, climber and American businessman. He's the man behind the latest expedition, which is supposed to head out in December.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Scene in brief



One for all and all for one: Athos, Porthos and Aramis were swashbuckling their way down the red carpet in London for the world premiere of *The Three Musketeers* in 3D. The trio of actors taking on the legendary characters — Matthew Macfadyen, Ray Stevenson and Luke Evans — were joined at yesterday's launch by Logan Lerman, who plays their hot-headed colleague, D'Artagnan.

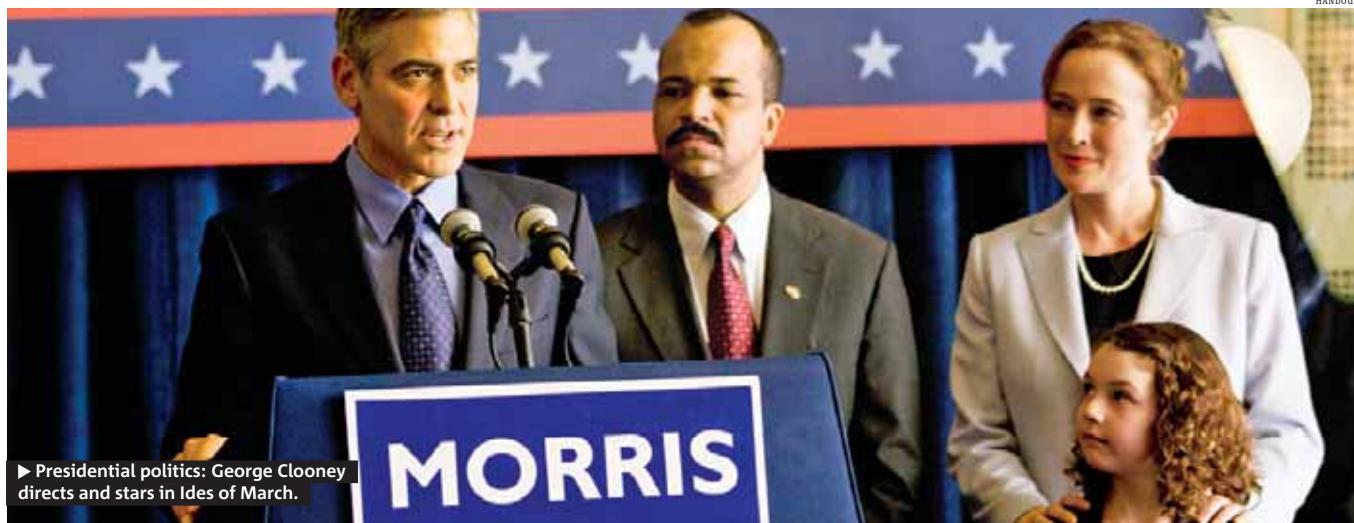
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Ralph Fiennes, David Cronenberg to receive career honours at London Film Festival

Clooney waxes political

► **Ides of March** reflects cynicism of the times, says actor-turned-director ► That's 'probably good'



► Presidential politics: George Clooney directs and stars in *Ides of March*.



NED ERBBAR

SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

METRO WORLD NEWS IN HOLLYWOOD

George Clooney's new film, *Ides of March*, takes what some might call a cynical look at the state of American politics, but that doesn't mean the director and star — ever the optimist — has given up on the system all together.

"I think it's cyclical," he says. "I think we're at a period of time where it's probably not our best moment in politics, but if you look at the things Jefferson and Adams did to each other, the 1800 election was pretty rotten and evil. Things change and are cyclical, so I'm hopeful."

The film, based on Beau Willimon's play *Farragut North*, follows an idealistic young campaign worker

(Ryan Gosling) whose work for a charismatic candidate (Clooney) during the Democratic primary opens his eyes to the underbelly of politics.

But as much as campaign signs and Beltway jargon make up the scenery of *Ides of March*, Clooney wants to make clear that this is not a political film — at least not the way he sees it.

"I thought of this as a film about moral choices, not about political strife," he says. "I thought it was a fun moral tale, and once you put it in politics it sort of amps up the problems. There isn't a person you have met that hasn't been met with moral questions. Everyone makes moral choices to better themselves and hurt others along the way, whether the

means justifies the ends."

In fact, he maintains, the political setting is actually incredibly incidental — especially considering current events. "It could have been better in Wall Street," he offers.

With acclaimed films like *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind* and *Good Night and Good Luck* on his resumé, Clooney is proving just as adept as a director as he is as an actor.

So how different is the Clooney behind the camera to the one audiences know? Not very.

"He's pretty much the same guy as George Clooney the actor," he jokes. "Basically the same height, same hair. Pretty much the same."

As for his on-camera work for the film, surely Clooney used some real-life

models in portraying a top-ranking politico, right? Not so much, he insists.

"No, there really weren't" any existing public figures used for this basis of his character, Clooney says.

"There's just so many ways to get in trouble with this answer. There were enough examples that we just picked little pieces of whatever we wanted."

But he maintains that viewers going out looking for those real-world corollaries are wasting their time. "People think it's about the John Edwards thing, but this was written before the John Edwards thing even broke," Clooney offers as an example.

It's all part of the perception problem people have with movies — especially political movies — and their place in culture,

Clooney explains.

"Films don't lead the way. In general it takes about two years to get a film made," he says.

"People think that films somehow are trying to lead society. Mostly we're reflecting the moods and thoughts that are going on in our country and around the world. If this film reflects some of the cynicism that we've seen in recent times, that's probably good. It's not a bad thing to hold a mirror up and look at some of the things we're doing. It's not a bad thing to look at how we elect our officials."

"I thought of this as a film about moral choices, not about political strife."

GEORGE CLOONEY

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ORDINARY PEOPLE, EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

IN FOCUS

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

If the premise of Real Steel sounds familiar, it's because the last time you saw it was in black and white, coming to you from the Twilight Zone.

"The Twilight Zone episode called Steel with Lee Marvin, written by Richard Matheson, was in the '60s," says Real Steel director Shawn Levy.

"It was about a robot boxing promoter, a guy who owns robots and fights them for money. From there we beefed it up."

In its original run the anthology series mixed and matched science fiction, comedy, supernatu-

ral and occult stories usually featuring ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances.

Hosted by Rod Serling, it was must see TV with a catchy theme song, which influenced thousands of writers and directors.

Three series and a movie have officially claimed the Twilight Zone name but dozens of other films have been either directly — or indirectly — inspired by the show.

Submitted for your approval, here is a list of movies that owe a debt to one of the greatest television shows ever.

The 1996 Kyle MacLachlan thriller The Trigger Effect was a reworking of a classic episode called The Monsters Are Due on Maple Street, which shows the effects of a power failure on a neighbourhood.

Named the best Twi-

light Zone episode by Time Magazine, the show is still shown in classrooms to illustrate how lethal a mix intolerance and panic can be.

The film pays tribute to its television roots by placing its main characters at the corner of Maple and Willoughby streets, a reference to another famous episode, A Stop at Willoughby.

The Cameron Diaz movie The Box was a remake of Button, Button, a story from the series' 1980 reinvention and Child's Play, the movie which introduced the murderous doll Chucky seems to have looked to a 1963 episode called Living Doll for inspiration.

Two towering artists of modern horror can count the Twilight Zone as seminal to their work.

The show perfected the use of the twist ending, which M. Night Shya-

malan would later incorporate into his work.

His most famous film, The Sixth Sense has echoes of Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge, a 1964 episode about a man who is revealed to be dead.

In Danse Macabre Stephen King called the show "damn near immortal" and it's been hinted that his novel Christine (later made into a movie) was inspired by the driverless car episode A Thing about Machines.

Three series and a movie have officially claimed the Twilight Zone name but dozens of other films have been either directly — or indirectly — inspired by the show.



► Rod Serling pauses for a cigarette and coffee between scenes during filming of The Twilight Zone in 1961.

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Back into the spotlight

► The countdown is over ► With new album *Metals*, Feist carves out a very different voice from popular 1234

As Feist celebrated her 35th birthday earlier this year with an intimate dinner among friends, she was momentarily distracted by the intense flickering of a television in a nearby room.

The images were bizarre — motorbikes on a stage accompanied by pyrotechnics and music.

Whatever it was seemed outlandish and jarring. What, she wondered, could be the spectacle?

It wasn't until she got closer to the television that the frenetic, choreographed commotion made sense. It was the telecast of the Grammy Awards. Only three years earlier, she was part of that scene, performing 1234, the song that would make the former indie artist a global sensation — in a different out-of-context performance. Now, watching the awards, the images she saw confirmed how surreal that experience had been — and how she just doesn't fit into that poppy, musical world.

"The Grammys, and the magnitude of that spotlight, it wasn't a place where I felt at home. Like what I do doesn't really happen there," Feist said during a recent interview as she sat on a quiet patio at her downtown Manhattan hotel. "It's such a potent and brief moment, and it doesn't really speak to the truth of what touring and being a musician is. It's mostly fanfare, inflated and very intense. I wasn't feeling very comfortable in that kind of set-

The album

What to expect from the album.

► New CD Musically, she veers somewhat from *The Reminder* with songs that seem weightier. There is no magically delightful song like 1234.

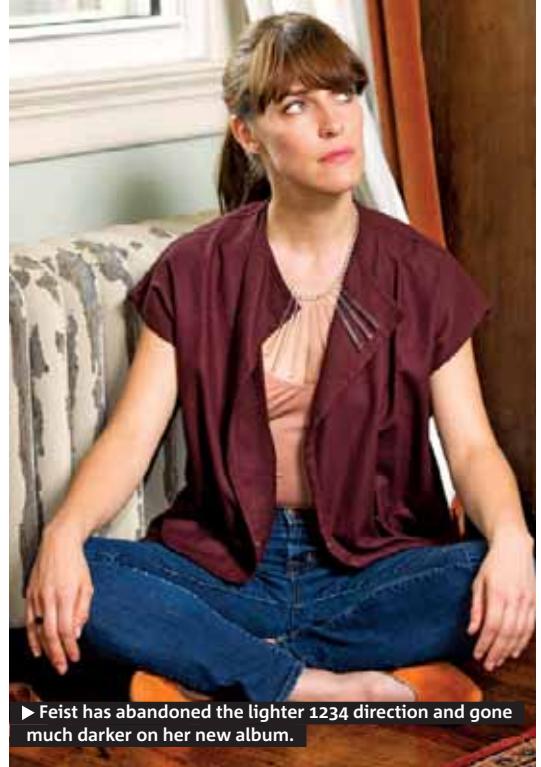
ting."

Now that Feist is releasing *Metals*, the follow-up to her breakthrough, heralded 2007 album, *The Reminder*, she's back in her comfort zone. Her fourth album has a darker tone, but still has that otherworldly, mystical quality that has made her one of music's more original voices.

"It's just heading into a much more personal and bold and more uncompromising direction, taking all kinds of risks, which I respect," says her longtime collaborator Chilly Gonzales, one of the album's producers and songwriters.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLES SYKES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Feist has abandoned the lighter 1234 direction and gone much darker on her new album.

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Kournikova is no loser

► Former tennis star defends her sub-par record ► Says a winning attitude will help Biggest Loser contestants



How do you make the 12th season of a reality show feel fresh? By bringing in some fresh judges.

Season 12 of The Biggest Loser airing on Citytv, and stepping in where Jillian Michaels left her sneakers are tennis superstar Anna Kournikova and personal trainer Dovett Quince. For Kournikova, the opportunity to coach instead of be coached was one she

didn't want to miss out on.

"I was the one that went after this opportunity," the former No. 8 player in the world says. "I've used my body as a tool my whole life on a tennis court. Instead of listening to all the information that was thrown at me, (I'm now) voicing it to the contestants and sharing it with them."

The tough-girl training style of former coach Jillian Michaels was a hit with viewers, but Kournikova isn't stressed about taking over.

FILE PHOTO/GETTY IMAGES



► Anna Kournikova is now helping Americans lose weight on the show Biggest Loser.

"I didn't feel any pressure," she says. "I didn't feel like I was replacing anyone or trying to fill in

anybody's shoes. We all have our own styles. I'm not trying to prove myself by any means. I'm just

there to do my part of the job, which is train and educate the contestants about (a) healthy lifestyle."

For those viewers wary about Kournikova — a buxom blonde who hasn't found much recent success on the court — taking the reins, she's eager to set the record straight.

"Listen, I get criticized and judged all the time," she says. "But to be a top 10 tennis player in the world, I must have been doing something right. And I came from Soviet Union from really nothing. That's how I tell the contestants I can relate to them. I know what it's like to be judged and criticized, whether it's because of your weight or how you look. People have all these preconceived notions and I'm OK with that. The only thing I can control is I can work hard (and) be the best human being I can."

This season, contestants will face off in a Battle of the Ages competition, with Kournikova coaching the over-50 crowd.

"Obviously the older group is the most difficult for me because they have less energy. They're much more set in their own way so it's a lot more difficult to change someone's mentality who's in their 50s or 60s."

Regardless of the challenges, she says she got really invested in each contestant's personal growth.

"You literally become family with these people," she says.

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Cowell's ego takes a hit

► X-Factor fails to reach Simon's lofty ratings goals ► Loses out to sitcom



Simon Cowell admits he regrets saying ratings less than 20 million for the U.S. version of The X Factor would be a failure.

The show's September debut earned 12.5 million viewers, which was less than the premiere of the comedy Modern Family, the leader of the night with 14.5 million viewers.

The X Factor held those

numbers for the second episode.

In week two, ratings hovered around 12 million viewers for each of the episodes.

"I'm not going to lie. I wanted 20 million when we launched," says Cowell, "but now I'm kind of back in the real world and I'm seeing this grow naturally. I'm as happy as I've ever

been."

The show is Cowell's baby. Besides being a judge on its panel, he is its creator and an executive producer.

"We're not in Russia where you have one show. This is life. If you're competitive and it spurs you on, I kind of get excited by it."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TV watch list

Spreading the Modern success

TELEVISION Modern Family is sandwiched by a pair of shows. Suburgatory pokes fun at suburban life with a surprising sweetness, while Happy Endings — airing the second episode of its second season — is a buoyant comedy that is helped by the chemistry of its cast

► Citytv, ABC

NBC embraces new comedies

SITCOMS Since when did Wednesday nights become such a hotbed for comedy? Well, it might have something to do with the introduction of two winning new NBC sitcoms, Free Agents and Up All Night.

► NBC

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Doing what you have to do in Hollywood

► Thomas Jane talks about the seedy side of life as an aspiring actor in L.A.

Hung star Thomas Jane is being remarkably frank about his early days in Hollywood, telling the L.A. Times that he used to perform sexual favours for men to get by.

"When I was a kid out here in L.A., I was homeless. I didn't have any money and I was living in my car. I wasn't averse to going down to Santa Monica Boulevard and letting a guy buy me a sandwich. Know what I mean?" he reveals. "You're a lot more open to experimentation as a young man. And for me, being a young artist and broke in Los Angeles, I was exploring my sexual identity."

In his own defense, Jane points to a long history of such work in Hollywood.

"As James Dean said, you're going to have one arm tied behind your back if you don't accept people's sexual favours." • METRO

"You're a lot more open to experimentation as a young man."

THOMAS JANE



► Thomas Jane

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Celebrity tweets

Talking points

Pattinson says Twilight felt anti-climatic

SOUNDS LIKE A JEALOUSY ISSUE. With filming on the Twilight films behind him, Robert Pattinson admits he's a bit disappointed with how it all ended, according to Hollyscoop.

When Pattinson and Kristen Stewart filmed their final scene, there was still another day of filming left for the crew, he explains.

"The wolves actually wrapped the whole movie, so our bit was such an anti-climax because it was the end of a week of night shoots," Pattinson says. "But they had the last ever day the next day. So when it was our last bit, no one clapped or anything." • METRO

Wilde still not over divorce from Ruspoli

SELF MEDICATING. Olivia Wilde's divorce from Italian Prince Tao Ruspoli was finalized late last week, according to Us Weekly.

The pair, who wed when the actress was 19 years old, filed for divorce in March after eight years of marriage.

While the exes have remained on good terms, the process still hasn't been easy.

"I got a divorce and self-medicated with food," Wilde told Nylon magazine in July. "But I figure that's better than self-med-

"Definitely did not get up in the middle and "walk out of interview" contrary to headline on cnnsi.com. Answered last question and left." @andyrodrick

"The Kardashians = the Gabors! I knew I'd seen this movie before!" @BetteMidler

"Did you hear about the blonde lesbian? She keeps having sex with MEN!!" @JennyMcCarthy

"Ah, autumn in LA, when the stagehands spray the leaves such pretty colors." @conanobrien

inating with crack cocaine." • METRO

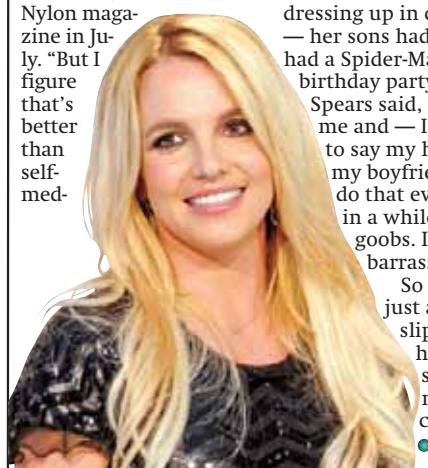
Spears lets an engagement hint slip?

AND PEOPLE ASK 'WHY SHOULD WE STILL CARE'? Maybe all of the engagement rumors about her and Jason Trawick have been sinking in with Britney Spears, as the singer flubbed when referring to her boyfriend during a recent radio interview in the U.K.

When asked about dressing up in costumes — her sons had recently had a Spider-Man-themed birthday party —

Spears said, "Actually me and — I was going to say my husband — my boyfriend, we do that every once in a while. We're goobs. I'm so embarrassed."

So was it just a Freudian slip or a hint at some big news to come? • METRO



A dream come true

► Cruising on the Disney Dream ship a real treat for this Metro writer's little princess

RUTH
ESTWICK
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

When my four-year-old daughter Riley and I arrived at the Disney Dream's home port in Port Canaveral, Fla., we knew we were in for the vacation of a lifetime. In fact, Riley was convinced we were setting sail for Never Land!

In reality, we were boarding the newest vessel in the Disney Cruise Line collection and setting sail for a two-day adventure to Disney's private island in the Bahamas; Castaway Cay. The Disney Dream is the third ship in the Disney Cruise Line fleet.

Once aboard, we understood quickly why they named this classic ocean liner the Disney Dream. The name says it all: a breathtaking Grand Atrium, elegance and luxury on each deck, silhouetted by Disney character detail at every turn. The staterooms, waterslides, restaurants, kids clubs and stage shows were classic Disney imagineering. We stayed in a spacious, Deluxe Oceanview Stateroom with veranda. Roomy enough to sleep four, this stateroom boasted a queen-size bed with below-bed storage, convertible sofa, split bath and private balcony.

Cruising is all about great food and we dined like Disney Princesses, as Riley would say.

The rotational dining approach allowed us to enjoy a different restaurant every night. The restaurants are themed — which Riley loved. The Enchanted Garden boasts a garden-inspired decor with a menu that allows you to select



► The Disney Dream is a 'dream' for kids, but also has plenty to keep adults happy, such as lounges, nightclubs and fine dining.



► Ruth and Riley

choices from around the world including Riley's favourite fish, pan-seared sea bass.

The Animator's Palate, the main dining room, was like being inside a Disney animation studio. The walls were adorned with tools of the trade, the interior magically transformed into a live under-sea, interactive adventure with Crush the Turtle from Finding Nemo.

Riley and I have so

many Disney Dream memories including the spectacular Pirates of the Caribbean Show, a pirate-themed deck party that included pre-show games hosted by swashbuckling scallywags. The pirate show was so realistic that Riley was convinced we had entered Never Land and were captured by Captain Hook. Following the show, Buccaneer Blast, a musically synced fireworks show lit up the night sky. Another of Riley's favourite memories? The Oceaneer's Club, an activity centre for kids aged three to 10. This supervised play centre is home to Disney-style imaginative worlds. And while the little buccaneers are at play, there is a lot to do for the adults. The District is an adults-only entertain-



► The Disney Dream offers breathtaking elegance and luxury.

ment area, complete with lounges and nightclubs.

Riley and I landed back home with a trunkful of memories. My most cherished? My little girl culling up to me midship in a golden throne on our final day and whispering that her favourite part of this magical journey was spending time with me.

3 life

Travel in brief



With a little research and planning, family trips can be fun-filled and hassle-free.

Plan Ahead: Use the Internet, travel guides and personal recommendations to research attractions, book a hotel or reserve tickets.

Frequent Stops: For long road trips schedule regular stops along the way.

Double Check: Before you depart ensure the entire family has everything they need.

NEWS CANADA



New Canadian art pavilion in Montreal reflects bustling cultural scene.

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Monster draw

► Florida theme parks are gearing up for the Halloween season with spook-tacular attractions for the entire family ► What started as a small-time venture for these venues has turned into big business

Universal Orlando's first foray into Halloween Horror Nights 21 years ago involved one weekend, a single haunted house tucked away in the back of the park by the Jaws ride and some people in store-bought masks jumping out of dark corners.

What was largely an experiment that first year has evolved into a monster draw for the Orlando theme park.

This time the event runs 25 nights in September and October and takes over the entire park, with eight themed haunted houses and mazes, two live shows, sophisticated makeup, film-quality set

Busch Gardens, Tampa, Fla.

At Busch Gardens in Tampa, the annual Howl-O-Scream event will feature The Dark Side of the Gardens for 17 nights, with seven haunted houses and mazes, plus the streets will be crawling with hideous zombies. Creative director Scott Swenson says twice as many actors are hired just to haunt the streets inside the park now than were involved in the entire event when it started 12 years ago.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

decor, lots of fake blood and as many as 1,000 "scare-actors" involved.

Planning and production takes place year-round now, and the event draws hundreds of thousands of people who pay \$42 or more to attend.

"I think it all has to do with escape," says Patrick Braillard, a production show director and one of the gleefully demented minds behind the event.

"People love to be transported, they love to be taken somewhere they're not familiar with. So our job is to create eight immersive environments."

"When they walk in, they are completely somewhere else."

The Universal haunted houses and mazes are on sophisticated studio soundstages and all have a theme and eerie story attached.

In one, visitors walk through a misty haunted cemetery as corpses emerge from disturbed graves and crypts.

In another, souls that perished at sea on Christopher Columbus' fourth ship forever haunt a Spanish fort.

Another has an obligatory tie-in to a Universal movie, in this case The Thing, which comes out in mid-October.

A Lady Luck gambling theme — it's the 21st year for the event, get it? — is a common thread throughout.

Horrible-looking zombies and other ghouls lurk in 'scare zones' throughout the park.

This is definitely not for younger kids and the faint of heart.

Halloween Horror Nights takes place at Universal Studios Florida.



► About 1,000 actors are involved in Universal Orlando's Halloween Horror Nights.



► Halloween Horror Nights draws hundreds of thousands of people who pay almost \$50 to get a good scare.

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Back in the 'Boine

► Canada's oldest back-country ski lodge is getting a facelift ► Assiniboine Lodge helped shape ski culture

The stories pour out of Sara Renner at Assiniboine Lodge.

Thousands of guests have stayed at the back-country lodge during its 83-year history. But for Renner, Assiniboine feels like her home.

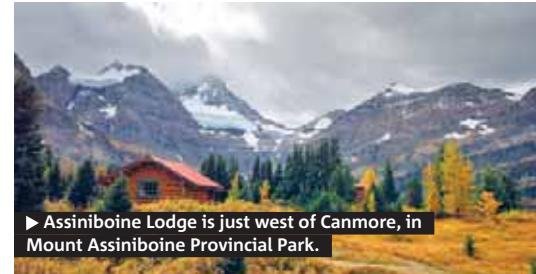
Renner, 35, is a three-time Olympian and silver medallist in cross-country skiing, now retired.

Her parents Sepp and Barb have operated Assiniboine Lodge for B.C. Parks since 1983, when Renner was seven years old.

The lodge and its out-buildings are currently under renovation. Seeing the changes in "the old gal," as Renner calls it, sparks a flood of personal memories.

Growing up, Renner spent her summers and winter vacations playing and skiing in the shadow of Mount Assiniboine. "The 'Boine" is also called the "Matterhorn of the Rockies" because its pinnacle peak juts 3,618 metres into the sky.

"Where is my heart? It's here," Renner says. "My summers, I have such great memories of playing in the woods with my siblings, flying kites in the meadows, hiking up



► Assiniboine Lodge is just west of Canmore, in Mount Assiniboine Provincial Park.

peaks."

This environment fostered an independence in the Renner children, not to mention that it laid the foundation for Sara Renner's athletic career.

Renner's winter days at Assiniboine meant putting on her skis as soon as she stepped out the door, lest she sink up to her chin in snow. Going to the out-house, skis on. Heading to the toboggan hill, skis on.

"Assiniboine formed me as an athlete," she says.

Renner's history is tied closely to Assiniboine, but hers is just one thread among the many in this place.

Assiniboine Lodge is west of Canmore just over the Alberta-B.C. border in Mount Assiniboine Provincial Park. It is designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site and, according to Ren-

ner, it's the oldest back-country ski lodge in the Canadian Rockies.

"It's like you're walking into a museum," Renner says. "You can feel the creaks. It's Canadian back-country history. It's Canadian ski history."

There was a time when the only way in was on skis or on horseback. With no television, Renner recalls performing skits to entertain guests in the evening.

Horses once brought all supplies in.

Guests now arrive by helicopter, in hiking boots or on skis. Hiking or skiing in usually means overnighting on the trail. Getting there in one day on foot requires exceptional fitness.

When the operating lease for Assiniboine Lodge came up for tender every five years, the Renner fam-



► Assiniboine Lodge is under renovation. It's scheduled to be fully operational by June 2012.

ily held their breath in fear they would lose it. But the Renners have and will continue to run Assiniboine.

Sepp and Barb are easing themselves out of the lodge's operations, but brother Andre and his business partner Claude Duchesne have won the bid to oversee the lodge for the next 20 years.

The lodge is currently undergoing a delicate and unique renovation. The foundation was failing badly and B.C. Parks has invested about \$1.5 million in restoring it while also expanding the basement, kitchen and breezeway.

In order to preserve the rustic facade, the main lodge was rolled onto the

meadow in front of its original location in order to rebuild the foundation.

Helicopters flew in building supplies, but a cement mixer was out of the question. So hundreds of bags of concrete mix came by air. The renovation, which began in May, is a

race against Mother Nature. Crews were making the most of the recent warm weather to complete the exterior before the snows come.

The lodge is scheduled to be fully operational again by June 2012.

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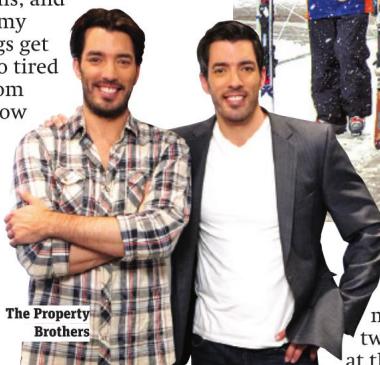
St. John's because it's the perfect blend of old and new, where city meets nature. The rugged landscapes and the friendly locals invite you into what is one of North America's oldest cities. A city full of adventurous tales and legends. They also play host to one of the best festivals I have ever attended...The George Street Festival. It is an incredible party that spans several city blocks and includes over 20 pubs within the historic district of St. John's. An unforgettable experience that I have had the pleasure of enjoying several times and know I will take pleasure in again.



TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DREW SCOTT: WHISTLER, B.C.

Being a Vancouver Boy, Whistler is one of my favourite spots in Canada as it's an outdoor wonderland. In less than 3.5 hours you can be outside in the summer hiking the trails, mountain biking through the paths, or canoeing on The River of Golden Dreams. For winter fun you'll find me on the ski hills, and if my legs get too tired from snow



The Property Brothers



boarding
I'll try to
take in a
movie or
two
at the Whistler
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Drink of the week

Key Lime Smoothie

Treat yourself to a taste of the tropics with this smoothie. Featuring heart-healthy walnuts and chock-full of omega-3s and fibre-rich avocado, this breakfast replacement will give you the fuel you need.

- 1/2 avocado
- 1/2 small banana
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) cold water
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) walnuts, chopped into halves or crumbs
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) low-fat coconut milk
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) honey
- Juice of 1 fresh lime

In a blender or using a hand blender, combine all ingredients and process until smooth, about 1 min.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS/
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Harvest sweets

► **Pumpkin & cranberries are ideal ingredients for fall desserts** ► Try these Pecan Pumpkin Gingerbread Whoopie Pies and Pumpkin Sticky Toffee Puddings

Preparation:

- 1 Heat oven to 180 C (350 F). Line 2 large baking sheets with parchment paper.

Ingredients:**Cakes**

- 550 ml (2 1/4 cups) all-purpose flour
- 5 ml (1 tsp) baking powder
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) baking soda
- 5 ml (1 tsp) salt
- 5 ml (1 tsp) cinnamon
- 10 ml (2 tsp) ginger
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) cloves
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) ground all-spice
- 125 ml (1/2 cup or 1 stick) unsalted butter, room temp
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) vegetable oil
- 500 ml (2 cups) packed dark brown sugar

- 2 In a bowl, sift flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, ground ginger, cloves and allspice. Set aside.

- 3 In bowl of electric mixer, beat butter, oil, brown sugar, molasses and vanilla. Add orange zest, candied ginger and eggs, beat to combine. Beat in pumpkin puree. Stir in flour mixture until thoroughly mixed.
- 4 Drop dough in mounds (50 ml/1/4 cup for large or 30 ml/2 tbsp for small) onto prepared baking sheets, leaving several centimetres/inches between each for spreading. You should make 20 or 40 cakes, depending on whether you want small or large whoopie pies. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes or until cakes feel slightly firm to the touch. Let fully cool before filling.

Pumpkin Sticky Toffee Puddings With Cranberry Caramel**Preparation:**

- 1 Preheat oven to 200 C (400 F). Spray muffin pan with non-stick cooking spray.

- 2 Puddings: In bowl, whisk flour, baking powder, baking soda, spices and salt. In a separate bowl, whisk butter, brown sugar, pumpkin puree, buttermilk, eggs and vanilla. Add to dry ingredients and stir until

combined. Divide batter among muffin cups. Bake until tester comes out clean, about 20 minutes. Let cool in pan before turning out.

Ingredients:**Puddings**

- 500 ml (2 cups) all-purpose flour
- 10 ml (2 tsp) baking powder
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) baking soda
- 5 ml (1 tsp) cinnamon
- 3 ml (3/4 tsp) ground gin-

- 3 In bowl of electric mixer, beat butter, oil, brown sugar, molasses and vanilla. Add orange zest, candied ginger and eggs, beat to combine. Beat in pumpkin puree. Stir in flour mixture until thoroughly mixed.

- 4 Drop dough in mounds (50 ml/1/4 cup for large or 30 ml/2 tbsp for small) onto prepared baking sheets, leaving several centimetres/inches between each for spreading. You should make 20 or 40 cakes, depending on whether you want small or large whoopie pies. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes or until cakes feel slightly firm to the touch. Let fully cool before filling.



► This recipe makes 10 small or 20 large whoopie pies.

ing flat sides together.

- 5 Filling: In bowl of electric mixer, beat together cream cheese, Fluff, butter, brown sugar and vanilla until smooth. Drop a large spoonful onto flat side of half of the cakes. Use a second cake to top each, press-
- 6 Place pecans in a large, wide bowl, then roll edge of each whoopie pie in pecans to coat. Refrigerate in an airtight container.

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I graduated from the University of Lethbridge with a BSc in computer science. The IT job market is a dog-eat-dog world and I always knew that a simple BSc degree would not be enough to get my foot in the door, which is why I decided to enhance my degree with co-op experience.

A university education teaches you theory, whereas a co-op lets you apply those theories to the real world. I contacted the U of L career centre, researched potential employers and applied to the positions that appealed to me.

I completed a 12-month co-op work term with the Government of Alberta as

a project assistant for the Ministry of Employment and Immigration.

Throughout my work term, I was pleasantly surprised with the challenging work and the level of responsibility I was given. My colleagues valued the work I did and my supervisor always encouraged me to take advantage of any learning opportunities.

This co-op experience added significant value to my university studies and gave me a head start in my career. A co-op work-term often serves as a "test drive" for both employers and students to evaluate if they're suitable for employment upon graduation.

What I learned

Key take-aways from Manwar's experience:

- **Research employers** to find out which ones offer what you're looking for, whether it's training, mentorship, lots of responsibility — or all of the above.
- **Test drive** employers during co-op terms and internships to see if you like them (and if they like you).
- **Try to work** in a variety of industries and organizations to find out what kind of work you enjoy doing.

My advice to fellow students and recent graduates is to look for a position that offers you an opportunity for learning and advancement. Research the employer you want to work for so you are able to articulate what you can bring to the table and what you hope to achieve from the experience.

My advice to schools and career centres is to increase awareness of co-op. Employers should provide co-op students with more responsibilities that are relevant to their field of study. In order to do that, employers should plan the experience in advance so that, whenever possible, levels of difficulty and re-



► Manwar Khan

sponsibility increase as the student develops new skills. With a little bit of responsibility, a confident and enthusiastic student can make a difference.

Where I am now
During my last semester, I received a job offer from a major energy company as an IT analyst.

But that was not my dream job. Ever since my co-op work term with the Government of Alberta,

I've wanted to work in the public sector. So when the Ministry of Employment and Immigration office offered me a position as a business analyst a year later, I seized the opportunity. I provide consulting and project leadership services in order to meet business needs.

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Pinch-hit home run gives Phillies series lead

3 **2**

PHILLIES

CARDINALS

Pinch-hitter Ben Francisco and closer Ryan Madson made manager Charlie Manuel's moves look smart, and the Philadelphia Phillies held off the St. Louis Cardinals 3-2 yesterday for a 2-1 lead in their NL playoff series.

Francisco batted for pitcher Cole Hamels and broke a scoreless game with a three-run homer in the seventh inning.

Madson earned his first multi-inning save of the year. He came in and got Allen Craig to sharply ground into a double play with the bases loaded to escape in the eighth, then worked around Yadier Molina's RBI single in the ninth.

The Phillies can finish off the wild-card Cardinals in Game 4 today, with Roy Oswalt opposing Edwin Jackson. Francisco's shot off Cardinals starter Jaime Garcia was his second hit in 19 post-season at-bats.

"I knew the way the game was going I was probably going to be in there to pinch-hit off a lefty," Francisco said. "I was just trying to get a hit up the middle and he left one up and luckily it got out of here."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Rays' luck expires

► **Rangers' Beltre helps oust Tampa Bay with historic day at the dish**

4 **3**

RANGERS

RAYS

This is what Adrian Beltre envisioned when he signed with Texas in the off-season. Balls jumping off his bat in October and the Rangers making another run for the pennant.

Beltre hit three straight home runs and the defending AL champions advanced again, beating the Tampa Bay Rays 4-3 in Game 4 yesterday to win their playoff matchup.

Beltre put on a show that few others have matched, helping Texas take the best-of-five series and ending the Rays' remarkable run to the wild-card spot. Tampa Bay overcame a nine-game deficit against the Boston Red Sox in the wild-card

standings in September.

"From my point of view, Texas gave me the best chance to put a ring on my finger," Beltre said. "And I am just two steps away from it. Hopefully that happens."

Ian Kinsler led off the game for Texas by homering on the second pitch from rookie Jeremy Hellickson.

Beltre came into the

game in a 1-for-11 slump before breaking loose for maybe his best day as a pro.

"I think besides my first big-league hit, this is right up there," said the slugger, who spent last season with the Red Sox.

Beltre became just the seventh player to homer three times in a post-season game, and the first since Adam Kennedy of the Angels in 2002.

Beltre connected in his first three at-bats. Given a chance to tie the big-league record of four homers in a game, he hit a routine fly-out in the eighth.

Neftali Feliz gave up a run in the ninth inning before closing for his third

save of the series, preserving the victory for Matt Harrison.

Beltre hit solo shots off Hellickson in the second and fourth innings, and added another solo drive against Matt Moore in the seventh.

Sean Rodriguez scored all three runs for the Rays. He drew a one-out walk and scored on Casey Kotchman's single in the ninth, but Feliz retired the next two batters.

The Rangers play the winner of the Detroit Tigers-New York Yankees series. The Yankees evened the ALDS at 2-2 with a 10-1 win in Detroit last night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 sports

Quoted



"We were not able to make the progress that we hoped we could make and we were not able to continue the negotiations"

NBA COMMISSIONER DAVID STERN YESTERDAY, AFTER NEARLY FOUR HOURS OF TALKS BETWEEN OWNERS AND PLAYERS ENDED

WITHOUT GAINING GROUND ON A NEW DEAL.

THE NBA CANCELLED THE REMAINDER OF THE PRE-SEASON YESTERDAY AND WILL WIPE OUT THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THE REGULAR SEASON IF THERE IS NO LABOUR AGREEMENT BY MONDAY.

Fresh start and fresh expectations for Flames

THE HOCKEY NEWS

BRIAN COSTELLO

CALGARY@METRONEWS.CA

The great thing about kicking off a fresh season is getting to see the new faces around the league. In Calgary, that focus is naturally on training camp wonder Roman Horak.

The 20-year-old Czech centre won a job during the pre-season and is with

the Flames to stay. He'll have to play himself off the team to see the sights of Abbotsford. But I'm intrigued more by the fresh performances of a couple of other Flames.

The first is centre Mikael Backlund, who will miss up to six weeks of the Flames season with a finger injury. After watching the 22-year-old Swede through his first 100 NHL games, I was convinced he was a career second-liner. I didn't think he had first-line pedigree or creativity to match other top centres in the league.

But after watching him through a handful of pre-

season games, I've noticed Backlund's doing something differently. He's using his speed more efficiently. Maybe it's just my imagination, but on several occasions I've seen him skate with the puck more toward open ice — rather than toward the net. This added patience not only thins out the defence, it allows his linemates to find open ice or move to scoring areas.

A younger Backlund typically dished off the puck or tried to skate around defenders. Is he growing up? No player in the history of the game skated to open

ice better than Wayne Gretzky. Nice to see Backlund moving in that direction, even though he'll be out of the lineup until mid-November.

Another player who I think is bound for a big season is winger Lee Stempniak, acquired from Phoenix for Daymond Langkow. Given the opportunity to play on the top two lines with a playmaking centre such as Brendan Morrison, Stempniak will surely return to 20-goal form and perhaps hit 30. He's had seasons of 27 (2006-07) and 28 goals (2009-10).

Stempniak is also an ex-

cellent skater and likes to get involved physically — he was fourth among Coyote forwards in hits last season.

Of all the deals Flames GM Jay Feaster has made so far, dumping Daymond Langkow's \$4.5-million contract for Stempniak's \$1.9 million was the best. Calgary was doing OK in terms of playmaking centres. Getting another goal-scoring winger will prove invaluable.

It'll be interesting to see how the Flames do with the unheard luxury of three scoring lines. Let the games begin.



Scan code for more sports.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYOFFS

DIVISION SERIES

All times Eastern
(Best-of-5 series)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

N.Y. YANKEES (E) VS. DETROIT (C)

(Series tied 2-2)

Last night's result

N.Y. Yankees 10 Detroit 1

Monday's result

Detroit 5 N.Y. Yankees 4

Tomorrow's game

Detroit at N.Y. Yankees, 8:07 p.m.

TEXAS (W) VS. TAMPA BAY (WC)

(Texas wins 3-1)

Yesterday's game

Texas 4 Tampa Bay 3

Monday's result

Texas 4 Tampa Bay 3

Tuesday's game

Detroit at N.Y. Yankees, 8:07 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

PHILADELPHIA (E) VS. ST. LOUIS (WC)

(Philadelphia leads 2-1)

Yesterday's result

Philadelphia 3 St. Louis 2

Sunday's result

St. Louis 5 Philadelphia 4

Tonight's game

Philadelphia (Oswalt 9-10) at St. Louis (Jackson 12-9), 6:07 or 8:07 p.m.

Friday's game

x-St. Louis at Philadelphia, 5:07 or 8:07 p.m.

MILWAUKEE (C) VS. ARIZONA (W)

(Milwaukee leads 2-0)

Last night's result

Milwaukee at Arizona

Tonight's game

x-Milwaukee (Wolf 13-10) at Arizona (Saunders 12-13), 8:07 or 9:37 p.m.

Friday's game

x-Arizona at Milwaukee, 5:07 or 8:07 p.m.

x—if necessary.

YANKEES 10, TIGERS 1

New York ab r h bi Detroit ab r h bi

Jeter ss 4 1 1 2 Jackson cf 3 0 1 0

Grndrs cf 5 0 1 1 RSantz bg 4 0 0 0

Cano 2b 4 0 1 2 Dvong lf 3 0 0 0

AlRdrbg 3b 4 1 2 1 MicCar 1b 3 0 0 0

Teixeir 1b 4 1 1 0 VMrtnz dh 3 1 1 1

Swisher rf 4 0 1 0 Kelly rf 3 0 1 0

Dickrns pr-f 1 1 0 0 Rabun ph 1 0 0 0

Posada dh 2 1 0 0 JPerff ts 4 0 1 0

JMontz ph-d 2 1 2 1 Avila c 3 0 0 0

RMartin c 4 2 2 0 OSant c 0 0 0 0

Gardnrf lf 4 2 2 1 Betrmz 3b 3 0 0 0

Totals 38 10 13 8 Totals 30 1 4 1

New York 002 020 060 10

Detroit 000 100 000 1

DP-NY 1, Det 6-LB-NY 7, Det 6-LB-Jeter (1),

Granderson (1), J.H.Peralta (2), HR—V.Martinez (1), SB—A.Jackson (1), SF—Al.Rodriguez,

IP H R ER BB SO

New York A.J.Burnett W,1-0 5 2 3 4 1 1 4 3

R.Soriano H,1 11-3 0 0 0 0 0 1

P.Hughes 1 0 0 0 0 0 2

Logan 1 0 0 0 0 0 3

Detroit

Porcello L,0-1 6 5 4 4 1 5

Coke 1 3 3 3 1 1

Albuquerque 0 1 2 2 1 0

Schlereth 2-3 2 1 1 0 2

Perry 11-3 2 0 0 0 0 0

Coke pitched to 3 batters in the 8th.

Albuquerque pitched to 2 batters in the 8th.

HBP—by Porcello (Posada, Teixeira), WP—

A.J.Burnett, Schlereth, Balk—Albuquerque.

T-310. A—43,527 (41,255).

RANGERS 4, RAYS 3

Texas	ab	r	h	b1	Tampa Bay	ab	r	h	b1
Kinsler 2b	4	1	1	1	Jennings lf	4	0	1	0
Andrus ss	3	0	0	0	B.Lupton cf	4	0	0	0
JHmltn cf-lf	4	0	0	0	Longoni 3b	4	0	1	0
MiYong dh	3	0	0	0	Zobrist 2b	4	0	1	0
ABeltrn 3b	4	3	3	3	Damon dh	4	0	0	0
Napoli c	4	0	1	0	Shoppch c	3	0	1	0
N.Cruz rf	4	0	0	0	Fuld ph	1	0	0	0
DvMpr lf	3	0	1	0	S.Rodrgz ss	2	3	1	0
Gentry pr-cf	0	0	0	0	Kitchm 1b	4	0	2	0
Morlnd 1b	3	0	0	0	E.Jhnsn pr	0	0	0	0
Joyce rf	4	0	1	1					
Totals	32	4	6	4	Totals	34	3	7	3
Texas	110	100	100	4					
Tampa Bay	010	010	001	3					

IP H R ER BB SO

Texas	M.Harrison W,1-0	5	5	2	2	9
D.Holland H,1	11-3	1	0	0	0	0
M.Adams H,3	2-3	0	0	0	0	1
Ogando H,3	1	0	0	0	0	1
Feilz S,3-3	1	1	1	1	1	1

Tampa Bay

Texas	Hellckson L,0-1	4	4	3	3	1	1	
Pence rf	3	0	0	0	Pujols 1b	3	1	0
Howard 1b	4	0	0	0	Bkrmn rf	4	0	0
Victorn cf	4	1	0	0	Freese 3b	5	0	1
Mayrff lf	4	0	0	0	Y.Molin c	5	0	1
Polanc 3b	4	0	1	0	Lohse pr	0	0	0
Ruiz c	3	1	0	0	Theriot 2b	5	0	4
Hamels p	2	0	0	0	Jay cf	1	0	0
B.Frncs p	1	1	1	3	Punto ph	1	0	0
Worley p	0	0	0	0	Schmrl cf	0	0	0
Bastrd p	0	0	0	0	J.Garcia p	3	0	0
Lidge p	0	0	0	0	Salas p	0	0	0
Madson p	1	0	0	0	Hollidy ph	1	0	1
Motte p	0	0	0	0				

Totals

34 3 7 3 Totals

38 2 12 2

Philadelphia 000 000 300 3

St. Louis 000 000 101 2

DP—Philadelphia 1. LOB—Philadelphia 6, St.

Louis 14. 2B—Rollins 3, Pujols 3 (HR)—

B.Francis 1) SB—RB—Rollins (2), Pujols (1),

Berkman (1), Theriot (1).

IP H R ER BB SO

Philadelphia	Hamels W,1-0	6	5	0	0	3	8
Worley H,1	1	3	1	1	1	0	1
Bastardo H,1	1-3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madson S,1-1	12-3	2	1	1	0	0	1

St. Louis

J.Garcia L,0-1

7 6 3 3 2 3

Salas 1 0 0 0 0 0

Motte 1 1 0 0 0 0

Worley pitched to 1 batter in the 8th.

Lidge pitched to 2 batters in the 8th.

HBP—by Hamels (Berkman), WP—J.Garcia,

PB—Y.Molina.

Umpires—Home, Jerry Layne; First, Angel Hernandez; Second, Gary Cederstrom; Third, Chad Fairchild; Right, Jerry Meals; Left, Chris Guccione.

T-313. A—46,914 (43,975).

CFL

EAST DIVISION

WEST DIVISION

GP W L T PF PA Pt

Montreal

13 8 5 0 406 323 16

Winnipeg

13 8 5 0 317 309 16

Hamilton

13 7 6 0 378 356 14

Toronto

13 3 10 0 263 371 6

GP W L T PF PA Pt

Calgary

13 8 5 0 364 348 16

B.C.

13 7 6 0 367 273 14

Edmonton

13 7 6 0 312 317 14

Saskatchewan

13 4 9 0 275 385 8

GP W L T PF PA Pt

Buffalo

3 1 0 .750 133 96

New England

2 2 0 .500 100 95

Miami

0 4 0 .000 69 104

GP W L T PF PA Pt

Houston

3 1 0 .750 107 70

Tennessee

1 3 0 0 .250 88 56

Indianapolis

1 0 4 0 .000 63 108

GP W L T PF PA Pt

Cincinnati

2 2 0 .500 80 74

Cleveland

2 2 0 .500 99 101

Pittsburgh

2 2 0 .500 64 72

GP W L T PF PA Pt

Washington

3 1 0 .750 119 57

Columbus

3 1 0 .750 83 85

Tampa Bay

2 2 0 .500 111 113

Denver

1 3 0 0 .250 89 126

GP W L T PF PA Pt

New Orleans

3 1 0 .750 127 98

Tampa Bay

3 1 0 .750 84 77

Atlanta

2 2 0 .500 99 105

Carolina

1 3 0 0 .250 89 102

GP W L T PF PA Pt

Green Bay

4 0 0 1.000 148 97

Detroit

4 0 0 1.000 130 76

Chicago

2 2 0 .500 94 98

Minnesota

0 4 0 .000 77 96

GP W L T PF PA Pt

San Francisco

3 1 0 .750 94 75

Seattle

**By comparison****Ford Fiesta**

Base price: \$14,500
All-new sedan and hatchback models are easy on the eyes and easy on gas.

Chevrolet Sonic

Base price: \$15,000 (est.)
2012 Aveo replacement offers lots of power plus good fuel economy.

Hyundai Accent

Base price: \$14,700
New sedan and hatch feature 138 hp plus 5.9 l/100 km combined rating.

WHEELBASE MEDIA

Toyota's old dog still barks

 **MALCOLM GUNN**
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

It used to be that picking a small car was pretty easy: there just weren't that many candidates, plain and simple.

Now it's like trying to pick a puppy from the pound.

There are plenty of cute choices with all kinds of bark and sass, and more

keep arriving every day it seems.

In that respect, the Yaris was more of an old dog than a young pup, but the upgrades for the 2012 model year at least keep it fresh enough to belong with newcomers such as the Mazda2, Hyundai Accent, Chevy Sonic and Ford Fiesta.

The first-generation Yaris that lasted for five model years wasn't the

Toyota Yaris

What you should know about the 2012 Toyota Yaris:

► **Types:** Two- / four-door, front-wheel-drive sub-com-

liveliest runner on the track, but a roomy interior and low price kept it on the front burner. As well, the tiny Toyota could be

pact hatchback.

► **Engine (hp):** 1.5-litre DOHC I4 (106).

► **Transmission:** Five-speed manual; four-speed automatic (opt.).

► **Mileage:** 7.0 l/100 km city, 5.7 highway (automatic).

again be built, but both hatches return in slightly enlarged formats.

The upgraded, crisper-looking Yaris will remain among the more popular small-car picks, even as the entire category adds variety at a steady clip.

Indeed the pound is getting bigger and the new pups are getting everyone's attention, but at least the Yaris now has enough bark to be noticed.

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How smart is your nav app?

► Vawn Himmelsbach tests out Nokia's smartphone application – in a Bentley



► Vawn Himmelsbach chills inside of the Bentley Continental GTC, which is worth a cool \$234,100.

VAWN HIMMELSBACH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

It may seem unlikely that someone who drives a Zipcar two or three times a year is qualified to drive a Bentley Continental GT Convertible — a car worth \$234,100 and goes from zero to 60 m.p.h. in 3.2 seconds.

But, for two hours, I had an opportunity to drive one while testing out the Nokia Maps smartphone app — and for that, I'm a perfect candidate. While I know the streets of Toronto well, I don't drive them, so on the rare occasion when I rent a car I inevitably get nervous and flustered and end up driving the wrong way down a one-way street.

So, could an app really

make me a more confident urban driver? While nothing could calm my nerves about driving a car with 550 horses and worth more than my mortgage, I was willing to give the app a try. It comes free with Nokia smartphones and will be widely available on the Windows Phone platform in 2012.

The smartphone can be mounted to the dash (with a suction-cup-like accessory), so the app is hands-free and voice-guided. I liked the maps, which show slopes and curves, speed limits, traffic signals and stop signs, as well as real-time traffic.

There are options for the fastest, shortest and greenest routes, and if you ignore The Voice's directions, it

Cool features

- ▶ Social network check-ins.
- ▶ Drive assistance mode that provides real-time traffic updates.
- ▶ Maps of transit lines.
- ▶ The ability to upload reviews and photos of places.

simply reroutes you.

Maps cover more than 140 countries in 80 languages; one feature I like, which isn't available on some navigation apps, is the ability to sideload maps on your smartphone, so if you're in another city or country, you're not racking up data roaming charges.

The app also comes with Lonely Planet and Trip Advisor to help choose restaura-

rants, hotels and attractions, which I used to find a café so I could load up on even more caffeine, which is just what a nervous driver needs.

You can also personalize it with Own Voice, an app that allows you to record your own voice (or a loved one's), and then hear the recorded voice for driving directions.

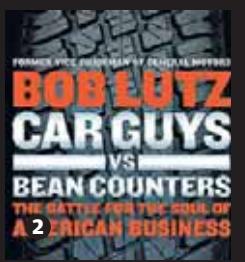
But I particularly liked the option to use the soothing sounds of Darth Vader or Mr. T. Or a version created by Montreal electrofunk band Chromeo.

The app is pretty much idiot-proof and got me where I wanted to go without getting confused, frustrated or lost.

And the Bentley got me there in style.

Top Gear

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF WHEELBASE



1

If you're fanatical about keeping your vehicle spotlessly clean, you'll likely dress up your tires with the latest shine product.

The only problem is that you'll want to avoid the mess of overspraying onto your wheels.

One solution is to shoot the tire shine onto a sponge and apply it to the tire, which is still messy on the hands, or you can literally mask off the wheels with Rim Shield.

Simply hold this protective plastic barrier by its handle over your car's wheels and then hit the tires with the spray.

Rim Shield is available in most popular tire sizes from 14-22 inches and sells for \$20. Pick up one (or more) in your size(s) from rimshield.com.

2

If you want to learn about the inner workings (or numerous non-workings) of one of North America's leading corporations, then pick up a copy of Bob Lutz's new book, *Car Guys vs Bean Counters*.

Lutz is a former Marine Corps pilot and auto exec at BMW, Ford, General Motors and Chrysler. He rejoined GM in 2001 where he was eventually given the rank of vice chairman and retired in May of 2010.

Lutz's book chronicles the automaker's head-in-the-sand management culture that existed during much of his time at GM, where bottom-line processes trumped product quality and very nearly spelled the end of the company. amazon.com.
WHEELBASE

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AUTO PILOT



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Do you know a good mechanic? That's a question I get all the time, and suggests there are other kinds, who are not so good.

Don't want to suggest that there are no nefarious mechanics out there, but I do feel that the ratio of good mechanics to lousy ones is better than most people perceive.

I would put that down to how easily the customer-

mechanic relationship can sour, and how unpleasant it is to, say, shell out \$2,395 for a transmission overhaul, when you really wanted to use that money for something fun — like a Harley Davidson-themed hot tub, with rabbit fur, leather and chrome trim.

But for today's discussion we're going to concentrate on how you might find one of the more stellar mechanics and/or auto service establishments in your area.

Unfortunately there are no bulletproof and/or pain-free methods. Most take a bit of time, persistence, and patience...

Third Party Recommendations

World of mouth is the best way to hear about the best shops. Also check out organizations such as the Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) and the Automobile Protection



ISTOCK

► CAA publishes a list of recommended auto service providers.

Agency (APA), who publish respective lists of recommended auto service providers.

Trial and Error

Once you have a short list, you should actually patronize a few shops before you settle on a favourite. Start small — oil changes, tires changes, routine maintenance, etc. If they do those well, up the ante with more expensive and complicated work.

Length Matters

You don't need to have them fill out a personality questionnaire à la Lava Life,

but you need to develop rapport and, ultimately, trust.

At the very least, it will be easier for both of you to discuss complex vehicle issues.

Mechanics also differ in approach to their jobs; some are perfectionists, others are more comfortable with ambiguity and experimenting with lower-cost solutions.

Pick one that is closer to your style.

Cleanliness

I'm throwing cleanliness into the mix, because I know it's important to some, and in some cases, can be a sign of a mechanic who is organized and conscientious.

But I don't buy it outright. Judge them more on their work, their word, and their price/value quotient. Disclaimer: I can't find my desk at the moment.

Equipment and Training

Vehicles are getting more complicated than 1960s spacecrafts. Ask prospective mechanics about their ongoing training initiatives, and what they have in way of diagnostic equipment.

Run away from any mechanic who uses a Willow stick divining rod to find electrical glitches, and any mechanic who consistently prescribes Robitussin, for any and all drive-ability problems.

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Loaded, leather
#11070708

Bi-weekly payments of only \$157

2008 Lexus IS 250



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#11082023

Bi-weekly payments of only \$169

2009 Honda Ridgeline EX-L w/SR 4WD



Only 77,000 km
#11091218

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GENERAL MOTORS



► The Cadillac SRX uses the Auto Dry Brakes system.

Auto-dry system helps wet-weather braking

► Cadillac has a 'gentle' way of drying its car's brakes

DRIVING FORCE

JIL MCINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Your vehicle's brakes work best when they're dry, but Mother Nature doesn't always align her schedule with your commute. Some automakers have introduced technologies to improve wet-weather braking, including Cadillac's Auto Dry Brakes.

"When you have dry brakes, you have your optimum braking performance," says Elizabeth Pilibosian, vehicle chief engineer for the Cadillac SRX, which uses the system.

"The system is preparing the driver for a potential braking manoeuvre and optimizing their braking performance and feel."

Disc brakes use heavy round metal discs, also called rotors, which fit behind the wheels and turn with them. A caliper containing brake pads fits over top of it. When you press the brake pedal, the caliper squeezes the pads against the spinning rotor. The resulting friction stops the vehicle.

The Auto Dry system pe-

GENERAL MOTORS



Dry Brakes improve performance.

"When you're driving in a wet environment (without the system), your brakes may feel less responsive," she says.

"You may have to press harder to get the responsiveness that you need or desire. When you have a dry rotor, your braking performance and responsiveness is better."

Should the driver have to use the brakes, the system automatically resets itself, wiping the brakes again once six kilometres have passed. It works whether the car is going in a straight line or on a curve.

The system is simply an algorithm programmed into the car's existing stability control system and does not add any extra components.

"We're using a computer that knows the wipers are on, that you're on the throttle, that you're above a certain speed, and it takes all of those attributes, gathers them up and says 'all of these things are in place, this algorithm can be implemented,'" Pilibosian says.

"We haven't added any computers. You're just using the data the car already has."

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AMVIC
LICENSED

A3 has a mainly-satisfied owner community

SECOND GEAR

 JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Audi's entry-level model, the A3, is a five-door hatchback with four- or six-cylinder power, available Quattro AWD and all the flexibility and functionality of an upscale German mini-wagon.

The A3 has been nicknamed the Beverly Hills GTI in some circles, referencing its Volkswagen-based underpinnings and engines.

Feature content included upgraded audio, heated leather, navigation, folding rear seats, a panoramic sunroof and plenty more.



Engine



Look for VW Group's two-litre turbo four-cylinder with 200 horsepower, or a 3.2-litre V-6 with 250. Quattro was standard with the six-cylinder engine and available on four-cylinder units later in the A3's life.

What owners like



Existing A3 owners typically rave about styling, build quality, comfort levels, all-season traction and even fuel efficiency on models with the four-cylinder engine. Good ride and handling characteristics round out the package.

What owners dislike



Owners say the A3 won't prove the most comfortable way to haul around four or five adults, and the centre console chews nicely into the driver's right-side knee space. Owners of earlier models typically wished for Bluetooth compatibility, and many report "weak" factory tires.

Common issues

Hard, inconsistent or "sloppy" shifting from the Direct Shift Gearbox (DSG) may be caused by a faulty computer control or "mechatronics" unit, which controls this advanced transmission. Long-term reliability of the DSG gearbox is currently unclear. If you're happy driving a manual, stick to your guns.

Note that sporadic acceleration or a "lumpy" feel to the engine's power delivery could be related to faulty or failing ignition coils.

Verdict

There are more affordable and reliable ways to get around than the A3 — though a largely satisfied owner community suggests that the potential issues are far outweighed by the rewarding year-round driving experience and luxury.

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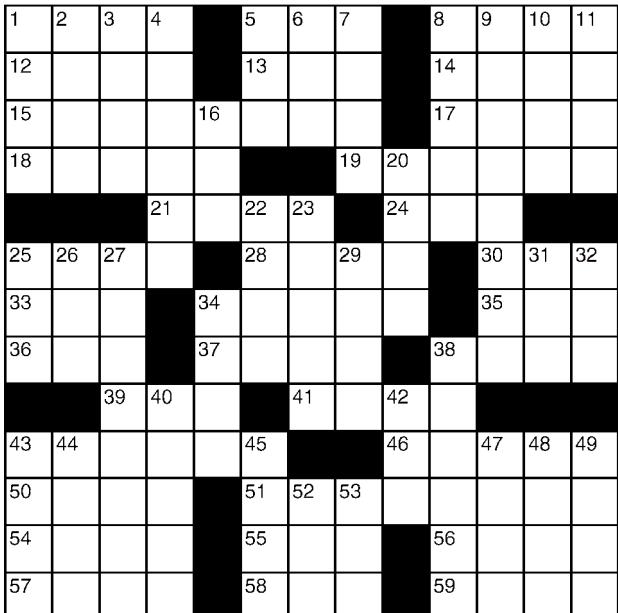
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Crossword

Across

1 007
5 Swelled head
8 Acknowledge
12 Reed instrument
13 Cattle call
14 Options list
15 Bean spiller?
17 Curved lines
18 Left the chair
19 Nickelodeon
spillages
21 Afternoon affairs
24 Lennon's lady
25 Use a paper towel
28 Scorch
30 Can. neighbor
33 The whole thing
34 Aquatic flora
35 Kennedy or Koppel
36 Crafty
37 Greenish blue
38 At the home of
(Fr.)
39 It's the word
41 Lemon coating
43 Oklahoman
46 Passion
50 Piece of work
51 Cape Cod city
54 Greek cheese
55 Lamb's dam
56 Apportion (out)
57 In need of liniment
58 Gender
59 Old portico



7 Ahs' mates
8 Forcefully
9 Martini ingredient
10 Erstwhile
11 Wimpy sort
16 Rhyming tribute
20 Unmatched
22 With skill
23 "— and spice and ..." 40
25 Existed
26 Under the weather
27 Old Chrysler
29 Hindu princess
31 Witness
32 Wood-shaping
7 tool
34 Pinnacle
38 Data holders
40 Recant
42 "Platoon" setting
43 Couch
44 Oil cartel
45 Deli loaves
47 Song for two
48 "Beetle Bailey"
49 Perlman of "Cheers"
52 Great wonder
53 Actor Harrison

Down

1 Goes up and down
2 Death notice
3 NASA scrub
4 Lower in rank
5 Ostrich's cousin
6 Obtained



For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metroneWS.ca

Today's horoscope

Aries March 21-April 20 It's one of those days when you would rather be anywhere but where you are supposed to be. Chin up.

Taurus April 21-May 21 Nothing you do is ever wasted. Your big breakthrough WILL come.

Gemini May 22-June 21 It may seem as if certain people are being deliberately obstructive, and maybe they are, but why should that be? Think about it.

Cancer June 22-July 22 There is no need to worry about the future. You may not have gotten the breaks you wanted, but that's life.

Leo July 23-Aug. 23 No matter how unsettling the changes that are taking place may be, they are all for the best in the long-term.

Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22 Sometimes, it can be all too easy to get depressed, so focus on things that bring a smile to your face.

Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 The secret to happiness is to keep moving forwards. It's all about self-motivation. Go for it.

Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 You made an error of judgment and need to make amends to those who followed your advice and lost.

Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Most of the time your hunches are spot on, but if you trust your instincts today, it may all go wrong.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Your relationship with people in authority is more important than usual, stay in their good books.

Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 You may think someone is keeping something from you, and maybe they are. It doesn't have to be bad.

Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Let certain people know that you will not allow them to get rich at your expense. **SALLY BROMPTON**

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Sudoku

5	2		4		1			
8						3		
9	7		6					
1	9	3			6			
8					7			
3			9	8	4			
			7	5	2			
2					1			
	1	9	4	6				

► Yesterday's answer



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ►

6	2	9	3	1	8	4	7	5
4	5	7	9	2	6	1	8	3
3	1	8	7	5	4	6	9	2
7	3	1	2	6	9	5	4	8
2	9	5	8	4	1	7	3	6
8	4	6	5	3	7	9	2	1
9	6	3	1	7	2	8	5	4
5	7	4	6	8	3	2	1	9
1	8	2	4	9	5	3	6	7

A look at the weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Min 1° Max 11°	Min 8° Max 12°	Min 3° Max 17°

Andrew Schultz,

Meteorologist

"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta". WEEKDAYS 5:30AM



Caption contest

"I
can't
believe
the
talked me
into this."
JOHN



WIN! You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metroneWS.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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Memorial Park Library, 1221 2nd St SW, Saturday, Oct. 8th at 2:00 pm
Call or text David at 604.720.2516

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metroneWS.ca/kiss.

Luke, I love you oh so much, its impossible to explain. These past almost two years, seeing you everyday no matter what, and living with each other for over a year, going everywhere and making memories, etc., have been the best times of my life. *MUAH* ^.^ ?
1.19.2010 ?OLIVIA

Stoupid Face I know you can never be all mine, but when I have you for those few moments in our lives, it's amazing. My double bed is lonely with only me. Miss you. RABBIT

My Jamaican HunHun!! almost half a decade later i'm still so into u and still don't know why! & this i want the whole world to know!!and no matter what i just want to tell U that U're the best & better than all the rest. just so U know..with us it's never off the table!Advance Happy Bday Mahal! JB

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